



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
OF THE COURTS
455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA
94102-3688
Tel 415-865-4200
TDD 415-865-4272
Fax 415-865-4205
www.courtinfo.ca.gov

FACT SHEET

March 2009

Improving Trial Court Facilities: Santa Clara—New Family Justice Center

In October 2008 the Judicial Council adopted an updated Trial Court Capital Outlay Plan and a list of 41 projects to be funded by SB 1407. AOC staff has completed a funding request for 15 projects, 13 of which have initial funding included in the FY 2009-2010 Budget Act. Approval of these projects mark important progress toward implementing needed improvements for courts across California.

A funding request for this project—the Santa Clara—New Family Justice Center—has been prepared for review and approval.

New Family Justice Center

The Judicial Council is proposing to enter into a capitalized lease purchase agreement with the County of Santa Clara for use and occupancy of a new 20 courtroom family courthouse in downtown San Jose. The estimated total cost for this 193,343-gross square foot courthouse is \$184.1 million (escalated to construction mid-point). The new courthouse will be constructed on land donated by the county. This project—ranked in the Critical Need priority group of the Trial Court Capital-Outlay Plan—is one of the highest priority capital outlay projects for the judicial branch.

No Security, Severe Overcrowding, Poor Physical Conditions, and Reduced Access to Court Services

The Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara operates out of nine facilities in close proximity to one another in downtown San Jose.

This construction of a 20 courtroom courthouse will replace six leased facilities in downtown San Jose to create a consolidated family law justice center. These facilities provide 19 courtrooms currently used by 20 judicial officers. The proposed new courthouse will consolidate all family court services in one building to allow the court to provide greatly enhanced services to families and children in Santa Clara County.

The project will consolidate dispersed, undersized, and severely deficient facilities. The new courthouse will improve security and will serve the public more efficiently.

Entry Screening Line Wraps Around
2-Courtroom Notre Dame Courthouse—Family Support



Entrance to the 10-Courtroom
Terraine Courthouse—Juvenile Dependency and Drug Court
Single screening station used to screen 184,000 people annually



Local Government Collaboration on Project

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors is fully committed to the development of the proposed new courthouse, including participating in funding of the project, financing the construction phase, and providing a site for the project.

Long-term Funding Needs

The enactment of SB 1407 was the major first step in funding 41 urgently needed courthouse improvement projects across the State of California. The Trial Court Capital-Outlay Plan includes another 112 projects for which funding has not been secured. California judicial branch will continue to explore additional, alternative means to fund the state's sizable need for courthouse infrastructure improvements while it implements the 41 projects to be funded by SB 1407.

More Information

For further information, please email the AOC-Office of Court Construction and Management at OCCM@jud.ca.gov.